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JOHN N. LUFF and GEORGE L. TOPPAN, Editors.

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A

"A LITTLE LEARNING IS A DANGEROUS THING."

Journalistic Perversion.

Inspired, apparently, by the reports in the public press of the arraignment of the notorious R. P. H. Wolle, the *New York Times* of April 14th, presented the following remarkable lucubration on its editorial page :

"COUNTERFEITING RARE STAMPS.

It is perhaps to be regretted that the joy-imparting if nefarious industry of manufacturing rare stamps for the benefit of dealers and collectors has been interrupted. From what appears the art is a very simple one, though requiring a certain skill and dexterity in penmanship. For example, a mistake of no great consequence is made in engraving the plate for a postage stamp. A few are printed, the mistake is discovered, the issue suppressed, and a stamp takes its place in which there is no defect. Immediately the recalled stamp becomes 'rare'—as rare, indeed, as a day in June, of which there cannot be more than thirty in each year, to go round among the population of the earth. What had originally the value of the few cents for which it would be accepted in payment of postage is by the collector 'desired as Daphne by the eager day god.' To what fabulous value it may attain if the fact that it is really scarce is established the sane man never knows.

The temptation to imitate with a pen the defect of an original stamp plate is perfectly comprehensible and probably irresistible. It pays extremely well. The collector who gets one of these forged discards is happy until he discovers that he had been duped. Why he should not merely regret the discovery is not quite clear. The intrinsic value of an uncurrent postage stamp, and especially of one which has been used, is about as near zero as one can get; and that the difference between O and, say, \$500 or more should be determined by a misprint or a slip of the engraver's burin is not comprehensible at all. If the interest of a freak stamp resides in its rarity, the unique product of the forger's pen would seem to possess this quality in higher degree than one of even a few turned out by the printing press and each like the other. The 'hand-painted' picture has ever ranked above the chromo lithograph; but the standards of value in philately seem to change this rule.

That the forging of stamps is not an honest business may be conceded without discussion. The same is true, perhaps, of the forging of good complexions, the concealment of age by the use of hair dye, the simulation of natural irregularity and discoloration in artificial dentation, and so on through a long list of what the law would call 'colorable imitations.' But the one appears to be a crime, while the others are not. The happiness of the collector who thinks he has acquired a very rare stamp is no less real while it lasts than if he had actually done so and since neither the real nor the false stamp has any intrinsic value whatever the specialist in stamp collection cannot expect the average human being to appreciate either his elation or his depression according to the genuineness of his acquisition. Whether the maker of the undetectable counterfeits of rare stamps would be a benefactor to collectors, by conferring upon them lasting happiness, is a question we leave to those who have developed a fancy for discussing such problems, for example, as whether the little girl whose quick wit enabled her to save life was or was not justified in stretching the truth to a point which, in the circumstances, would seem to be well within its elastic limit."

The writer of the editorial probably based his arguments on the ancient

doctrine, that there is no disgrace in a lie but only in being detected in it. That such sentiments should appear in any newspaper is surprising, but that they should have space in the columns of a paper of so extravagantly vaunted a respectability as the *Times* is almost startling. We would scarcely expect to find such arguments in a journal of the "yellow" variety, but in a paper whose boast is "All the news that's fit to print" (and, inferentially, no news that's not fit to print), they are distinctly out of place. A paper that advocates such things will not long be welcomed in the family circle and by those who have children to bring up.

The fact that it is our ox that is gored has nothing to do with the ethics of the matter. The preachment of the *Times* is false doctrine. It sets forth the pretense that any imitation is as good as the original article, as long as it is not detected. Such arguments are absurd and untenable,—as well say that a ten-cent chromo is as good as a painting by Raphael, because it correctly reproduces the outlines and colors of the original. To carry the writer's arguments to an exaggerated, but logical, conclusion, we might say that an antique sculptured finger, to which a modern stonemason has added all other parts of a statue of Venus, is as desirable as would be a masterpiece of Phidias in its first perfection.

A good copy of a great painting may be a very desirable thing to own, as a work of art, but it can never take the place of the original. A good forgery of one of our national bank notes might be as pleasing to look at as the genuine article, but it will never give equal satisfaction to an honest man nor meet with the approval of the Treasury Department.

It has occurred to us that the writer may have intended to be facetious. We fail to find the humor in his screed, though it may be apparent to his subtler mind. The man who can find reason for laughter in this article should stay away from the circus,—the ancient jests of the clown might lead to hysteria in one whose sense of the ludicrous is so keenly developed.

The writer harps much on the subject of intrinsic value. "The intrinsic value of an uncurrent postage stamp, especially of one which has been used, is about as near zero as one can get". True, O, wise man! Likewise, the utilitarian value of a Sévres vase is not much greater than that of a kitchen crock of equal capacity; and the intrinsic worth of a picture by Van Dyke, viewed as so many tubes of paint and square inches of canvas, is not great; a first folio of Shakespeare will not bring a large price as waste paper. But the book, the picture, the vase and the postage stamp all have their value to the connoisseur and the collector.

The writer in the *Times* appears to labor under the delusion that the only rare stamps are freaks; that, unless a stamp exhibits some error of design or color, it has no place except among the common or garden varieties. We who collect stamps know that the great rarities are rare because they exist in limited quantities and not because they differ from other stamps in some minor details. Following out his views, he says: "If the interest of a freak stamp resides in its rarity, the unique product of the forger's pen would seem to possess this quality in higher degree than one of even a few turned out by the printing press and each like the other". But forgeries are seldom unique, they are usually made in quantities and are not desired by philatelists because we are collecting the genuine postal issues of various countries and not their imitations. As well argue that a forged picture would be desirable in the galleries of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, because a certain artist had painted numerous pictures but only this one forgery of his work existed.

Lastly, he says : " The specialist in stamp collecting cannot expect the average human being to appreciate either his elation or his depression ". We certainly do not expect appreciation from newspaper writers of a certain grade,—men who, knowing nothing of a subject, rush into glib discussion of it, endeavoring to make cheap wit take the place of logic, sneers that of knowledge, and to cover specious arguments with well turned phrases. That sort of thing is not journalism, but hack writing and space-filling and is unworthy of any reputable newspaper.—J. N. L.



Our Indian Letter.

By E. W. WETHERELL.

CAMP MEDIKERENAVIKANKOTE,

March 7, 1904.

My letter this month is written under somewhat adverse circumstances, as I have not seen a stamp man (nor a white man of any sort, for the matter of that) for two months and magazines do not turn up with the regularity I should like; consequently, I must fall back on a recent semi philatelic experience as material for this letter.

A few days ago I was camping near an unusually "poisonous" place, a hundred miles or so from any place in particular, and chiefly notorious for the diversity, number and general "objectionableness" of the insect life. My tent was—

Crowded with scorpions,
Ants and fleas,
Centipedes and bumble bees
With rats and bats
And pussy cats.

But not the least
Of all of these,
That striped legg'd beast
Anophyles,¹

Under these distressing circumstances, application to philately under canvas was difficult. I therefore decided to go out and interview the head man of the village to see if any old stamps were obtainable. My conversation with this worthy was difficult, as he spoke only village Canarese, which differs from literary Canarese as much as "Pidgeon English" differs from Anglo Saxon. With much difficulty I gathered that there were stamps in a local Cutcherry², so the following day I interviewed the officer in charge, who was a "failed B. A."³ He seemed surprised at my request that *all* the stamps in stock should be brought out for my inspection, as only one rupee value had been sold in the previous eighteen months, and, doubtless, he thought I might buy the stock. Visions of entire sheets of the first issue of 4 anna stamps haunted me, while the strong box was being opened. The contents was disappointing—4 anna Transfer Duty, 8 anna Court Fees and half anna postage stamps were the only varieties in stock. The officer was quite hurt when I refused to take any of these, but said he had some used stamps from old letters in his house. For these I patiently waited an hour or more, seated on an iron bedstead, formerly the property of a planter. This bedstead was brought out with great ceremony, but was not very comfortable as there was no mattress. Then the stamps came. There were fifty or more half anna stamps, about a dozen of one anna, five or six higher values up to 8 annas, half a dozen departmental seals and several Mysore receipt stamps. The entire population had by this time assembled and the curiosity was great. This heap of rubbish appealed to me even less than the contents of the strong box, and I left the village without any of the treasures which I had vainly hoped might be mine.

¹ The malarial mosquito.

² Branch Treasury.

³ It frequently happens that an applicant for a post in this country gives, as a recommendation, that he has appeared for the B. A. degree and has failed.

My visit was a source of wonder to the villagers and will be a stock subject of conversation and speculation for a generation or two ; it will probably rank in the native mind as an event of equal importance with the overthrow of the Tipu Sultan at Seringapatam, and the killing of the tiger which had eaten the patal's⁴ bullock. My inquiry for stamps was circulated with that astonishing rapidity with which news always travels in the East, and for days I was besieged by every sort and condition of man with stamps. One villager had a few fairly decent specimens, and the present of one rupee for these so dumbfounded him that a rumor spread at once that either the sahib was mad or the rupee was bad. During the remainder of my stay the camp was surrounded all day long by a gaping crowd, whose only object was to see the creature who would give a rupee for stamps which had been used and which *must*, therefore, be valueless.

HIRNGUR, T. B., March 12, 1904.

I have just met a postal official in this district, who told me an amusing incident which had come under his notice. The postmaster of a neighboring village had an office with one or two additional rooms. These rooms are P. O. property. The postmaster is of an hospitable nature, and is kind enough to put up and generally entertain (as far as his five rupees a month will allow him) any friends who are passing through the village. This week a large circus arrived, and when the postal inspector visited the P. O. he found that the postmaster was trying to accommodate two elephants, a tight rope walker, a clown, five monkeys and a performing pig. As these took up a certain amount of space, the inspector objected, as he feared the monkeys might appropriate the cash box and that possibly the elephants might find mail bags as nourishing as sugar cane. The circus troop was accordingly turned out, but the manager had his revenge, for at the performance that night he made the inspector pay for his seat and arranged a chair with a broken leg for his special benefit.

Revenge is sweet and even circus managers are human.

BANGALORE, March 29, 1904.

I have just received the Febrnary number of the A. J. P., and heartily sympathize with the editor's remarks on the subject of cribbing without acknowledgment. Philately is a subject in which cribbing is absolutely necessary, but full acknowledgment must be made in all cases where articles are borrowed. I have had one or two experiences—outside of philately—of articles calmly appropriated without a word of explanation or acknowledgment, and, in one case, the reprint was so crowded with errors that my thanks were due the cribbing editor for omitting to mention the authorship. Of course, there are times when the source of information is left out by an oversight, but any editor with a spark of proper feeling would rectify the omission in the next issue of his journal. It will be a bad day for philatelic journalism when all articles have to be copyrighted to protect them from unscrupulous editors. I hope your timely remarks will safeguard your articles in the future.

Mr Masson is continuing his able articles on Sirmoor in the *P. J. I.* Collectors who are on the lookout for almost virgin soil should give their attention to the issues of this State,—they will be well repaid.

⁴ Headman of a village.

Historical Notes on the Republic of San Marino and its Postage Stamps.

BY JULES BOUVÉZ.

[Continued from page 144]

In the first part of this article, we have seen that, contrary to the custom in other countries, the Republic of San Marino had, until 1899, granted to its inhabitants the privilege of corresponding among themselves post free, throughout the territory. This privilege was abrogated by the decree of Feb. 1st, 1899. This decree is of some interest because it establishes taxation on postal matter of all kinds, whilst anticipating the creation of a special series of postage stamps called, "Stamps for the Interior Service". Below we reproduce the decree in question :

"We, Captains Regent of the Most Serene Republic of San Marino, by virtue of the power which has just been conferred on us, through the Princely and Sovereign Council, by its decree of Jan. 12th, 1899, have decreed and do decree as follows :

Article I:—Beginning Feb. 5th next, correspondence for the interior of the Republic should be prepaid with the postage stamps created for this purpose and in accordance with the regulations of the following tariff :

Letters :—Complete prepayment to the place of destination: per 15 grammes, 5c for letters prepaid and 7c in case of nonpayment.

Manuscripts :—5c up to 50 grammes and 10c from 50 to 500 grammes, or part of 500 grammes.

Printed Matter and Samples :—2c per 50 grammes, or part of 50 grammes. The maximum weight allowed is 350gr. for samples and 5 kilogrammes for printed matter. In this last category are comprised books periodicals, photographs, etc. On samples and printed matter not prepaid, double the rate due will be charged.

Registered Articles :—The rate for registration is fixed at 5c for letters and manuscripts and at 2c for printed matter and samples.

Postal Cards :—Postal cards manufactured by private industry, with views, etc., will also be allowed to circulate through the post, but they must not exceed the weight of the same articles of the Republic for the international service. Each postal card must be prepaid with a postage stamp of 2c. It is forbidden to print the seal of the State on private postal cards.

REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO, February 1st, 1899.

The Captains Regent,

MARINO BARBICONI—M. P.

FRANCESCO MARCUCCI—M. P.

The Secretary of State,

GIULIANO BELLUZZI—M. P."



The stamps issued in accordance with this decree, the type of which we illustrate above, are of two values: 2c brown-red and 5c yellow-ochre. They are printed on white wove paper and perforated 14, like those of the preceding issues. The engraving represents the statue of Liberty, which stands in front of the new palace of the Government of the Republic of San Marino.

The issue of these two values was at first considered speculative, because it seemed that the postal department of San Marino could, as well as those of other countries, make use in its interior service of the stamps which were employed for the international service. This issue, however, may be justified by the reason that the government wished, by creating these two values, to ascertain, as exactly as possible, the amount of receipts on account of the circulation of shipments in the interior of the Republic. However it may be, it must be recognized that if this issue is considered speculative, it failed in its object, for these stamps are not very interesting and have never had a great success among collectors.

A few months after this issue, the postal administration of San Marino thought well to advise the public, by the notice reproduced below, which were the stamps that could still be considered as available for the prepayment of correspondence sent outside of the Republic:

"In view of the changes made in the colors of a few postage stamps, with the object of making them conform to the arrangement of the Universal Postal Union, the public is informed that, on and after the 15th inst., the postage stamps available for the prepayment of correspondence for abroad, will be the following only:

"2c rose—5c green—10c red—20c violet—25c ultramarine blue—30c yellow—40c brown—45c olive-green—65c carmine—2 lire brown and yellow—5 lire lilac-brown and green.

"All the other values are declared definitively out of use and will no longer serve for the prepayment of correspondence.

SAN MARINO, June 12th, 1899.

The Secretary,

DOMENICO FATTORI."

We have seen that, in consequence of the Congress at Washington, the Republic of San Marino, considered as being part of the Italian postal department, had to adopt for its postage stamps representing the standard rates of the Union, or their equivalent, the colors named in article six of the rules of that Congress.

The entrance of this Republic into the Union and the application in its postal service of the regulations in use in the Kingdom of Italy, brought about, also the creation of a set of unpaid letter stamps which were to serve for the checking of the collection of the sums with which articles not prepaid, or insufficiently prepaid, were taxed. The first issue of these values took place on April 1st, 1897. These unpaid letter stamps, of oblong form, printed on wove paper with the crown water mark, measure 19x23 mm, and are perforated 14.



The design is copied from that of the stamps in use ; it comprises the inscription "REPUB. DI S. MARINO. SEGNATASSE. LIBERTAS." in a bande-rolle forming an ellipse, in the center of which is the letter "C" or "L" followed by the figure of value. The impression of the design is pale green for the first five values and claret for the other three ; the figure of value and the letters "C" and "L" in the center of the design are printed in dark brown. The set comprises eight stamps, viz.:

5c	green and brown	60c	green and brown
10c	" " "	1 l	claret and brown
30c	" " "	5 l	" " "
50c	" " "	10 l	" " "

As the illustrations above show, there are, on the one hand, two types of the letter C (Centesimi); the first type is peculiar to the 5c stamp, and the second, that of the 10c, is uniform for the four values : 10, 30, 50 and 60c. On the other hand, the letter L (Lire) is different for each of the three high values.

It is important to observe that the last two stamps are very rarely met with bearing the postal cancellation of the years 1897 and 1898. It was not until about December, 1898 that they appeared in considerable numbers; the increased number is due to the complaisance of the San Marino post office and to the demand of collectors who could not procure them otherwise, for the very simple reason that very few postal shipments not prepaid or insufficiently prepaid going into the Republic of San Marino bear taxes of 5 and 10 lire.

We must, in fact, bear in mind that these "tax stamps" were created for a double purpose : (1) to check the taxes applied to postal shipments not prepaid or insufficiently prepaid, as is done in most countries of the Postal Union, and (2) to serve as revenue stamps to be affixed to bills of exchange, drafts, certificates and legal documents, and, for these latter purposes the high values of the series were more particularly required.

It may, therefore, be said that it was without reason that, on the issue of these values, certain philatelic journals of Europe, and more particularly the publications of German origin, gave these stamps as purely fiscal and without any philatelic importance. The result was that for some time these vignettes were excluded from catalogues and collections of postage stamps, but the truth was not long in making itself known and it was soon recognized that the eight "Segnatasse" of San Marino were veritable unpaid letter stamps, of the same standing as those issued by the Kingdom of Italy.

In conclusion, let us add that, on the 15th of July, 1898, one year after the entrance of the Republic into the Universal Postal Union, the first two values (5c and 10c) appeared printed in dark green instead of light green. The following year, the 30c appeared also in dark green.

Everything leads us to believe that as the stock of the other values is exhausted the entire series will be modified.



Notes Upon Stamps and their Varieties.

BY GEO. L. TOPPAN.

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[Continued from page 128.]

Danish West Indies.

1873-96.



Fig. 315.

3c.—A variety of this stamp (same type as Fig. 315) exists in which there is a wedge-shaped, colorless flaw at the left of the crown and impinging upon it. It is due, doubtless, to a flaw in the plate; is found in all printings and is the 78th stamp in the sheet.

5c.—There are two varieties of the figure "5" in the central oval of the stamp.

Var. A.—The whole figure appears thin and the ball is so much so as to look more like a hook.

Var. B.—The figure is noticeably thicker and the ball more perfectly formed and distinct.

Variety A is found exclusively upon the earlier impressions while B is confined to the later ones on thicker paper.

7c.—Slight variations in the shape of the figures may be found but they are hardly deserving of special mention.

10c.—A variety exists in which there is a period between the "T" and "S" of "CENTS", thus: "CENT.S". This is found nine times on each sheet and extends through all the printings. These varieties are numbers 11, 22, 25, 37, 61, 70, 82, 92 and 94 on the sheet.

1887.



Fig. 316.

1c. on 7c.—Two varieties of this stamp (Fig. 316) are known, as follows:

"Var. A.—Almost the entire upper portion of the figure "1" is broken off.

Var. B.—There is a period or dot, after the word "CENT".



Fig. 317.

10c. on 50c.—Of this stamp (Fig. 317) several minor varieties in the size and shape of the figures of the surcharge may be found.

Two of these are worthy of being listed, as follows:—

Var. A.—The “9” and the “5” of “1895” are very thin and narrow.

Var. B.—The top portion of the “1” in “10”, including the serif, has been broken off, making it shorter and flat topped.

1902.

2

CENTS

1902

Fig. 318.

2

CENTS

1902

Fig. 319.

2c. on 3c.—Two varieties of the surcharge upon this stamp (Fig. 318) exist.

Var. A.—The figure “2” in “1902” has a straight tail. (Fig. 319). It occurs eight times in each sheet of one hundred, being numbers 13, 16, 18, 58, 66, 71, 84 and 93 in sheets of the first printing and 6, 33, 47, 58, 74, 94 95 and 98 in those of the second printing.

Var. B.—This is an error; the date reading “1901” instead of “1902”.

8c. on 10c.—Two varieties of this surcharge are known, as follows:

Var. A.—The figure “2” in “1902” has a straight tail. It occurs the same number of times, and in the same relative positions upon the sheet, as in the 2c on 3c.

Var. B.—There is a space of 2 mm. between the “1” and “9” of “1902”. It is number 21 on the sheet and is found only in the first setting; in fact, so far as our observation goes, it is found only on a very small proportion of the sheets, by far the greater number not containing this variety.

Denmark.

1851.



Fig. 320.

2rs.—Three slight varieties of this stamp are known. They differ only in the manner in which the down stroke of the “2” joins the flag. (Fig. 320).

1874.

3ö —A variety exists in which the first "A" of "DENMARK" is omitted. The stamp is of the type illustrated as Fig. 321.

1879.



Fig. 321.



Fig. 322.

5ö. Type I.—The figure "5" is perfectly formed. (Fig. 321).

5ö. Type II.—The ball of the figure "5" is broken off. (Fig. 322).

1882-85.



Fig. 323.



Fig. 324.

5ö, 10ö and 20ö.—There are two types of these three stamps.

Type I.—The numerals of value in the corners are small. (Fig. 323).

Type II.—The numerals of value in the corners are larger. (Fig. 324).

Diego Suarez.

1890.



Fig. 325.

15c. on 10c.—An error of the surcharge of this stamp (Fig. 325) is known in which the "1" of "15" is omitted.

Dominican Republic.

1866.



Fig. 326.



Fig. 327.

11. Type I.—The letters of "CORREOS" are rather small and thin and the second "R" of the word is separated from the letters at either side of it by quite a space. The "N" of "UN" is in lower case type. (Fig. 326).

11. Type II.—The letters of "CORREOS" are larger and much heavier than in type I, are evenly spaced and the "N" of "UN" is a capital letter. (Fig. 327).

1867.

11 blue paper.—There are three varieties of this stamp, which is type I of the last series, as follows:—

Var. I.—The lower inscription, "UN REAL," is set as one word, there being no space between the two words.

Var. II.—There is no inscription at top, "CORREOS" having been omitted.

Var. III.—There is no inscription at either top or bottom.

1871.

$\frac{1}{2}$ r blue on rose.—A variety of this stamp, which is of the type illustrated as Fig. 326, is known which has no inscriptions either at top or bottom.

1873.

$\frac{1}{2}$ r black on yellow.—Of this stamp, which is of the first type, a variety exists without inscriptions at top or bottom.

11 black on violet.—This stamp, type as Fig. 327, is known without inscriptions at either the top or bottom.

1880.



Fig. 328.

1c.—A variety exists in which the letter "T" of "CENTAVO" is broken, only the top stroke remaining. It is number 11 on the sheet and, as it occurs regularly, is found on both the plain and the netted paper and with all the various surcharges.

1883.

5	5	5	1	1
céntimos.	céntimos	céntimos.	franco.	Franco.
Fig. 329.	Fig. 330.	Fig. 331.	Fig. 332.	Fig. 333
	1	1		
	1	franco,	5	
		25		
	franco	céntimos.	francos	
	Fig. 334.	Fig. 335	Fig. 336.	

The following varieties of these stamps are known :

5c on 1c. Type I. Fig. 329 :—

Var. A.—The surcharge reads "25 CENTIMOS" instead of "5 CENTIMOS".

Var. B.—The "5" has a straight top.

Var. C.—There is an accent over the "1" of "CENTIMOS."

All of the above are found on both the plain paper and that with an overprinted network.

5c on 1c. Type II. Fig. 330 :—

Var. A.—Surcharged "10" instead of "5". Plain paper only.

5c on 1c. Type III. Fig. 331 :—

Var. A.—Surcharged "10" instead of "5". This occurs on both papers.

Var. B.—With accent over the "1" of "CENTIMOS". Found on both papers.

10c on 2c. Type I. Fig. 329 :—

Var. A.—"10" omitted, leaving only "CENTIMOS". Plain paper only.

Var. B.—The "0" of "10" omitted. Plain paper only.

Var. C.—Surcharged "5" instead of "10". Both papers.

Var. D.—With accent on "1" of "CENTIMOS". Both papers.

Var. E.—The serif of the "1" is straight. Both papers.

10c on 2c. Type II. Fig. 331 :—

Var. A.—"CENTIMOS" misspelled "CENTIMSO". Plain paper only.

25c on 5c. Type I. Fig. 329 :—

Var. A.—Surcharged "5" instead of "25". On plain paper only.

Var. B.—Surcharged "10" instead of "25". " " " "

Var. C.—Surcharged "50" instead of "25". On both papers.

Var. D.—Accent on "1" of "CENTIMOS". " " " "

Var. E.—Surcharged on the back of the stamp. On plain paper only.

Var. F.—Surcharged "CENTIMOS" only, the "25" being omitted. On plain paper only.

25c on 5c. Type II. Fig. 331 :—

Var. A.—Surcharged "5" instead of "25". On plain paper only.

Var. B.—Surcharged "50" instead of "25". " " " "

50c on 10c. Type I. Fig. 329 :—

Var. A.—With accent over "1" of "CENTIMOS". On both papers.

1fr. on 20c. Type I. Fig. 332.—

Var. A.—The "i" has a straight serif. This occurs on both papers.

1fr. on 20c. Type II. Fig. 333.—

Var. A.—There is a comma after "FRANCO". This occurs on both papers.

1fr. on 20c. Type III. Fig. 334.—

Var. A.—The "i" has a straight serif. This occurs on both papers.

1fr. 25c on 25c. Fig. 335.—

Var. A.—The "i" has a straight serif. This is found on both papers.

5fr. Type II. Fig. 336.—

Var. A.—The "s" of "FRANCOS" is inverted. Plain paper only.

1900.



Fig. 337.

2c.—"HAITI" on the right instead of on the left.

5c.—An error is known in which the inscriptions "ATLANTICO" and "MAR CARIBE" are transposed.

20c.—This value exists printed in carmine instead of purple, the latter being the correct color for this stamp.

50c.—A variety exists in which the value reads "CINCO" instead of "CINCuenta".

1902.



Fig. 338.

All values of this series exist imperforate and with the central portion inverted.

It is said that the errors of both the series of 1900 and 1902 were deliberately made for sale to philatelists.

Dutch Indies.

1870-76.



Fig. 339.



Fig. 340.

1870. 1c.—The word "CENT." is 6 mm. in length. (Fig. 339).

1876. 1c.—The word "CENT." is $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in length. (Fig. 340).

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.

1882.



Fig. 341.

There are four types of these stamps, three of which have been already illustrated and described under Curacao.

Type IV.—The letters of "PORT" are much larger than in the other types and there are 37 loops in the chain. (Fig. 341).

Ecuador.

1865.



Fig. 342.

4r. Type I.—The central medallion, containing the arms, is oval in shape. (Fig. 342).

4r. Type II.—The central medallion, containing the arms, is circular in shape.

1872.



Fig. 343.

$\frac{1}{2}$ r. Type I.—There is a small dot between the words "MEDIO" and "REAL". (Fig. 343).

$\frac{1}{2}$ r. Type II.—There is no dot between "MEDIO" and "REAL".

Egypt.

1866.



Fig. 344.



Fig. 345.

5pi.—This stamp was erroneously overprinted with the surcharge belonging to the ten piastres stamp and is, therefore, to be found with the figures "5" and the Arabic characters "TEN" (*onn grousch*). In the surcharge it is the lower group of characters which represent the value, so that this variety is identical with figure 344, excepting that the lower group of Arabic characters are those shown by Fig. 345.

10pi.—Like the 5pi, this stamp was erroneously surcharged with the die of the five piastres. It is figure 345 with the lower group of characters as shown on figure 344 instead of the proper one.

1872-75.



Fig. 346.



Fig. 347.

1872. 5pa.—In this stamp the left label bears the Arabic inscription denoting the value and the numerals of value in the corners are properly placed (Fig. 346).

1875. 5pa.—While preparing the plate for printing a new supply of this value the side labels were misplaced, the one with the Arabic inscription

being placed on the right instead of on the left and vice versa with the other one. This caused the numerals of value in the corners to be inverted (Fig. 347).

Fiji Islands.

1874.



Fig. 348.



Fig. 349.



Fig. 350.

Several minor varieties of the surcharges upon these stamps exist, as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 2c on 1p blue. | Var. A.—Inverted "A" instead of "v". |
| 2c on 1p " | Var. B.—The period after the "R" is a Maltese cross. |
| 6c on 3p green. | Var. A.—Inverted "A" instead of "v". |
| 6c on 3p " | Var. B.—The period after the "R" is a Maltese cross. |
| 12c on 6p rose. | Var. A.—Inverted "A" instead of "v". |
| 12c on 6p " | Var. B.—The period after the "R" is a Maltese cross. |
- All the above are of the type illustrated as figure 348.
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 2p on 6c green. | Var. A.—There is a period between the "2" and the "d". |
|-----------------|--|
- This variety is found in both the black and the red surcharges.
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 2p on 12c rose. | Var. A.—There is a period between the "2" and the "d". |
| 2p on 12c rose. | Var. B.—There is no period after "2d". |
- All of the above are of the type illustrated as Fig. 349.
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 2p on 6c green. | Var. A.—Inverted "A" instead of "v". |
| 2p on 6c " | Var. B.—The period after the "R" is a Maltese cross. |
| 2p on 6c " | Var. C.—There is no period after "2d". |
- The last three varieties are found in both the black and the red surcharges.
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 2p on 12c rose. | Var. A.—Inverted "A" instead of "v". |
| 2p on 12c " | Var. B.—There is no period after "2d". |
- These last five varieties are of the type illustrated as Fig. 350.

1876.



Fig. 351.

2p on 3p. Var. A.—The surcharge "TWO PENCE" is omitted.

1891.



Fig. 352.

2½p on 2p. Type I.—Measuring from the top of the horizontal stroke of the tail of the "2" to the ball of the "2" of "½" there is a space of 1½ mm.

2½p on 2p. Type II.—The same measurement as in type I shows the space between the "2" and the "½" to be 2 mm.

1892.



Fig. 353.

5p on 6p. Type I.—The words "FIVE" and "PENCE" are 2 mm. apart.

5p on 6p. Type II.—The words "FIVE" and "PENCE" are 3 mm. apart.

Finland.

1866-67.



Fig. 354.

5p *black on buff*.—This is an error of color, being printed in the color, and on the paper of the 10p. It is known only on the laid paper.

10p *purple-brown on lilac*.—This, also, is an error of color, being printed in the color and on the paper of the 5p. It is found in this color upon the wove paper but occurs also upon the laid paper in the red-brown shade which is peculiar to that series. (Fig. 354).

1891.



Fig. 355.

3½r. *black and yellow*.—This is an error, being printed in the color of the 7r. (Fig. 355).

France.

1849-50.

4
Fig. 357.

Fig. 356.

Fig. 358.

40c. orange on yellowish.—Two types of this stamp (Fig. 356) exist, as follows:

Type I.—The "4" of "40" is narrow and the diagonal stroke does not extend beyond the line of the vertical stroke. (Fig. 357).

Type II.—The "4" of "40" is wider than in the first type and the diagonal stroke extends quite a little to the right of the vertical stroke. (Fig. 358). This type exists but twice in each sheet, in the bottom row. Upon one stamp both of the "4's" are of this type while, on the other, only one is wide while the other is narrow.

1869.



Fig. 359.

5fr. gray lilac on lavender.—In this stamp (Fig. 359) the "5" and the "F" were printed separately from the rest of the design. Two types and two varieties are known, as follows:

Type I.—The "5" and the "F" measure $3\frac{3}{4}$ mm. in height.

Type II.—The "5" and the "F" measure 4 mm. in height.

Var. A.—The "5" and the "F" are printed in blue.

Var. B.—The "5" and the "F" are omitted.

1870.



Fig. 360.



Fig. 361.



Fig. 362.



Fig. 363.

20c blue. Type I.—The inscriptions in both the upper and lower labels are small; the "R" of "REPUB." is shorter than the other letters of that word and the same is true of the "A" of "FRANC.", while the "C" is taller than any of the other letters of the inscription. The space between the lower frame line of the upper label and the outer frame of the central circle is quite wide, measuring nearly a full millimetre, and the shading on the neck, which is very light, is entirely composed of small dots. (Fig. 360).

20c blue. Type II.—The inscriptions are slightly larger and thicker than in type I and the letters are all of the same size. The space between the upper label and the central circle is much less, measuring only about one-half a millimetre, and the shading on the neck, which is much heavier than in type I, is composed of horizontal lines. (Fig. 361).

20c blue.—Type III.—The inscriptions are larger than in either of the other types, being similar to those of the other values of the series.

The space between the upper label and the central oval is about as in type II; the shading on the neck, while of a similar character to that of

type II, is much heavier and more pronounced and there is considerable shading, consisting mostly of short dashes, under the eye.

The point of the bust almost touches the circle of pearls below it. (Fig. 362).

20c. blue. Type IV.—Similar to the last in every respect excepting that there is a space of 1 mm. between the point of the bust and the pearls below it. (Fig. 363).

The lithographed stamps may be easily distinguished from the engraved ones of this series by the shading under the eye.

In the lithographs this shading is almost horizontal, the lines being very slightly curved upwards so as to follow the general outline of the lower lid of the eye.

In the engraved stamps these shade lines are curved downwards, being almost diagonal, and, starting from the eye, they outline the curve of the cheek.

1871-74.



Fig. 364.

15c *bistre on rose*.—This is an error of color, a cliché of the 15c having been inserted, by mistake, in the plate of the 10c. It is of the type illustrated as Fig. 364.

40c orange on yellowish.—The two types of the "4" are found in this series as in that of 1849-50.

1876.



Fig. 365.



Fig. 366.

There are two types of these stamps, differentiated as follows:

Type I.—Below the lower label is the inscription "J. A. SAGE INV." in microscopic letters. In this type the "N" of "INV." is below the letter "B" of "REPUBLIQUE" (Fig. 365).

Type II.—The "N" of "INV." is below the "U" of "REPUBLIQUE". (Fig. 366)

The 1c and 4c green, the 20c red-brown on straw, the 20c blue and the 40c red on straw are only known in Type I, all the other values are found in both types.

1877-1900

All stamps of these series are of type II with the following exceptions:

1892. 15c blue, this is known without the inscription "J. A. SAGE, INV."
 1899. 5c yellow-green, exists in both types.
 " 10c black on lavender, is type I.
 1900. 50c carmine on rose, exists in both types.
 " 2fr. yellow-brown on pale blue, is type I.

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.

1859-70.



Fig. 367.

1859. 10c black. Lithographed.—The central bar of the "E" of "CENTIMES" is very short and the accent on the "A" slants at an angle of 30°.

1859. 10c black. Typographed.—The central bar of the "E" of "CENTIMES" is almost as long as the top and bottom bar and the accent on the "A" slants at an angle of 47° (Fig 367).

1863. 15c black. Typographed.—The accent on the "A" slants at an angle of 47°. There is a space of about $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. between the the body and flag of the "5".

1870. 15c black. Lithographed.—The accent on the "A" slants at an angle of 17° only. The curves of the body and the flag of the "5" nearly touch.



Some Stamp Designs.

By C. A. HOWES.

[Continued from page 140.]

Turning now to the issues of eastern Asia we find them abounding in characteristic designs, replete with symbolism, and with no little interest added by the curious and often ornamental inscriptions which differ so widely from our familiar European forms. As China has been the foster parent of the East, from which the others have drawn their literature and letters as well as their civilization and superstitions, let us look first at that great empire which furnishes so much of curious and absorbing interest to the student of human nature and the development of races.

As we have already noted in connection with the names of eastern countries, the Chinese, themselves, are not acquainted with the name *China* by which the country is known to the West. The most credible account of the origin of this name takes us back to the third century before Christ. At that time the empire was composed of an agglomeration of feudal principalities, somewhat like the condition of the kingdoms of Europe during the Middle Ages. We know that powerful vassals often possessed more actual power than the sovereign himself, and such was the case in China at the time mentioned; misrule and vice in the reigning dynasty had crippled its power, and anarchy had broken loose through the ambitions and jealousies of the petty sovereigns, released from the stronger control of a central government. During this internecine warfare the family of Chin gradually became paramount and, in the year B. C. 255, they overthrew the imperial dynasty called the *Chou* and founded the *Ch'in* dynasty. Prior to this conquest, the Chin family had long been famous and, when they were finally seated on the imperial throne, they immediately took steps to destroy the old feudal system and welded the many states into the beginning of the China of to-day. It is, therefore, to the fame of the exploits of the Chin family and its emperors, which became well known in India, Persia and other Asiatic countries, that we are, doubtless, indebted to our present term *China*.

The natives themselves have many names to designate the country. When the Chou (or Chow) dynasty, spoken of above, was established, about B. C. 1122, the imperial family called its own special state *Chung Kuo*, or the "Middle Kingdom", because it was surrounded by the others. This name gradually came to be given to the empire, for, with Chinese conceit, they believed themselves to be the "chosen people"; that within their borders was contained the only civilization on the earth and without were none but "barbarians". It is thus that we have become familiar with that term as well as the "Middle Flowery Kingdom", *Chung Hua Kuo*, another affectation, the term "flowery" referring to the extremely polished and polite state of their civilization, in their own opinion, thus giving the word the same use that we often make of it. Another name for China proper, which does not include its possessions, is *Shih-pa Shéng*, or the "Eighteen Provinces", that being the number of the main political divisions.

With the history of China we need concern ourselves but little down to the time of the *T'ai p'ing* rebellion, which shook the empire to its foundations and lasted for some fifteen years. Ten years previous to that, in 1840, had

occurred the so-called "Opium War" by which the British, in support of the East India Company, had succeeded in forcing China to open her markets to the drug which she had previously barred out. The treaty of peace opened the first five Treaty Ports to trade and settlement: Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo and Shanghai; a maritime customs bureau was instituted and a regular customs tariff established at the open ports. During the Tai-ping rebellion, however, in the later "50's" when the rebels were getting uncomfortably close to Shanghai, the foreign merchants of that place suggested to the Chinese authorities that the collection of the customs revenue be placed in the hands of foreigners, inasmuch as the Imperial Government had already made use of their services in various ways during the progress of the rebellion. The suggestion was acted upon and the result surprised the Chinese themselves. The unexpected increase in the revenues showed to what extent the native officials had previously "squeezed" them and the imperial authorities, therefore, gladly extended the new arrangement and put the customs definitely under foreign control.

Sir Robert Hart, who had been in the British consular service, was engaged by the Imperial Government in 1859 and, in 1863, was made Inspector-General, which post he holds to this day. Under his able, honest and efficient management the imperial maritime customs has become "the one financial stay and prop, the one negotiable asset, the one honestly administered and creditable branch or hopeful feature in all the Chinese scheme or plan of government," and it is likewise noted for having the most admirable civil service system in the world.

It is to this department of the Chinese government that our stamp studies bring us. With the head office in Peking, between which and the Treaty Ports communication must be kept up for the forwarding of instructions, reports, etc., and the opening of more and more ports as new treaties and concessions were wrung from China, a regular courier and boat service had to be kept up for the customs' own use, which amounted practically to a postal service. In 1878 it was determined to increase this service and permit the use of it by residents of the Treaty Ports, who often had considerable delay, difficulty or expense in forwarding missives between the ports. Accordingly the organization of the customs' post was intrusted to Mr. H. B. Morse, one of the employes of the service, and, on July 26, 1878, it was opened between Tientsin and Peking. Because of the use of the post by the public, stamps were, of course, a necessity. I have had the pleasure of seeing a set, "one of the first dozen ever sold", which were sent by Mr. Morse to a friend in Boston. He evidently thought they would be more interesting in cancelled condition, as they each bear the dated postmark of Tientsin as above indicated.



The stamps are, of course, familiar to all our readers and it will be at once noticed that they are copied almost directly from the old first issue of

Shanghai ; like the latter, they were also made in that city. The main feature of the design is the dragon, China's only "coat of arms." This creature figures to such an extent in legendary lore, not only among the Asiatic peoples but among Europeans as well, that one may reasonably consider it as something more than wholly mythical, particularly when geology presents us with the remains of creatures of such terrifying forms as the "pterodactyl" or flying lizard, the "plesiosaurus" or swimming lizard, and various other forms that make a pictorial work on geology look like an extract from a nightmare. May it not be that, in the early childhood of the race, primeval man now and again came across one of the fast disappearing monsters of the reptilian age which preceded him, and our legends of dragons are the faint echo of such encounters?

The Chinese have divided the animal kingdom into five tribes. At the head of the "naked animals" is man! At the head of the other four tribes, however, are fabulous creatures; the *ch'i-lin*, or unicorn, heads the "hairy" animals; the *feng Huang*, or phoenix, the feathered tribe; the *lung*, or dragon, the scaly races; and the *kuei*, or tortoise, the shelly division. Among them all, however, the dragon stands pre-eminent and furnishes a comparison for everything terrible, imposing and powerful. From its divine origin and character, therefore, it has become symbolical of the emperor, who is called *T'ien Tzu*, or Son of Heaven, by his subjects, because heaven is supposed to be his father and the earth his mother. It is thus that his presence is spoken of as the *lung-t'i* or "dragon's body"; and his throne as the *lung wei* or "dragon's seat." On his robe of state, of imperial yellow, is embroidered the fabled monster, as the emblem of its wearer, and again, in the imperial standard, we find a blue dragon on a yellow field.

Three kinds of dragons are accounted for, the *lung* in the sky, the *li* in the sea, and the *chiao* in the marshes; but the Chinese say the *lung* is the only authentic one. A real orthodox dragon is a truly marvellous production, as he is supposed to have the head of a camel, the horns of a deer, eyes of a rabbit, ears of a cow, neck of a snake, belly of a frog, scales of a carp, claws of a hawk and palms of a tiger. It is four footed and each foot has *five* claws if for use in pictures, embroideries or figures used by the imperial court or under its authority; for all other uses the representation must contain but *four* claws. Turning to our stamps we find the five-clawed dragon, showing that they were issued under imperial authority. On each side of the dragon's mouth are whiskers and there is, generally, a beard; its breath is sometimes changed into water and sometimes into fire; and its voice is like the jingling of copper pans. If a real live dragon could be caught we are sure it would excite all the wonder that the Chinese claim for it, and make the fortune of any circus manager.

Pictures of the dragon are almost always accompanied by certain accessories which will readily be recognized in the cuts already given. The curved or wavy lines beneath represent the sea; the "curls" scattered around him represent clouds, for this is the *lung* or dragon of the sky. The whiskers and beard are plainly seen on the Shanghai stamp but not so readily on the customs stamp. The latter, however, has the pearl or gem which the dragon is popularly supposed to carry on its forehead or in its beard and to which are attributed wondrous virtues and powers of healing. Its name is the *yeh-kuang chu* or "night shining pearl" and it is variously described as a diamond, pearl or carbuncle which is "as brilliant as a fire and shines like a star." It is the circular object beneath the dragon's head and within the curve of its body. The horns branching out from it are the conventional Chinese symbol for the irradiation of its inherent light.

Let us now turn to the inscriptions on the stamps, for many of them are as interesting as the designs themselves. But first let me say a few words about the characters forming these legends in answer to many queries about Chinese writing.

The Chinese language possesses *no alphabet*, and anything approaching "spelling" is therefore entirely foreign to it. The characters are simply arbitrary signs to which sounds have been given, naturally, but which possess in themselves no indication of such sounds. A good illustration may be taken from our numerals: the figure 5, for instance, is merely a conventional form which a Chinaman, although he might have learned our alphabet, would be utterly unable to call by name until someone told it to him, because there is nothing in its make-up to indicate the sound of "five". The Chinese characters stand in the same relation to the Englishman; he cannot pronounce them until he learns from some source what their names may be.

Originally the characters were few in number and were derived from natural or artificial objects, like the Egyptian hieroglyphics, and were used perhaps, like the more primitive picture writing of the American Indians. Chinese philologists have preserved many of the ancient forms from which the modern characters have become conventionalized, in the lapse of ages, until some are hardly recognizable offspring of the ancient morphograms. But imitative symbols obviously had their limitations and, as the use of writing increased and abstract ideas had to be represented, the symbols were combined to represent new ideas or qualities. Thus two "trees" together stand for *forest*; a "woman" and a "broom" for *wife*; a "door" with a "bar" across it means *to lock*, etc. But by far the greater bulk of the language is made up of compound characters which cannot be so readily dissected. They are called phonograms because they combine an imitative with a sound symbol; the former imparting at least some of its significance to the compound, as a rule, while the latter loses its meaning entirely but gives the combination its name. In this particular alone do we have any approach to alphabetic writing, namely: the use of a symbol phonetically and with no reference to its particular meaning; but it is only a rudimentary form.

Concerning the number of characters used by the Chinese various wild statements are made at times. It may be said, however, that the total number of really different characters sanctioned by good usage is not far from 25,000; while the knowledge of from three to five thousand is amply sufficient for all ordinary demands. Much difficulty was experienced by Chinese lexicographers in arranging the characters in dictionaries until about 500 years ago, when the most prominent part of each compound character was selected as its key or "radical" and all those having the same radical were arranged consecutively under it according to the number of strokes of the brush made in writing the remaining portion. All the radicals, or "classifiers", as they are sometimes called, are arranged in the same way, according to the number of strokes made in forming them and, as there are 214 of these, one will find that number of groupings in a Chinese dictionary. These characters are all common ones and among the most ancient in the language.

In pronouncing the words which will be given as transliterations of the characters it will be necessary to state only that the consonants have their usual familiar English sounds, except that "ch" is pronounced about like "j." The vowels are pronounced as in Italian, except that the "ê" has the sound of 'u' in "but"; ü has the German pronunciation (the French "u"); "ü" is short as in "put," and "ou" corresponds to "our" in English. A few other curious combinations of consonants can hardly be described, but the aspirate ('), which oc-

curs in so many words, must be mentioned. Greek scholars will recognize it as the "rough breathing" or equivalent of "h." It must be remembered that the use of the characters, each of which is a separate and distinct word and is pronounced with but one movement of the organs of speech, has kept the Chinese language monosyllabic and thus preserved to us the nearest approach to the form of speech of primeval man, which was, without doubt, in single syllables. It is apparent that a limit would soon be reached in the number of different sounds or monosyllabic words that could be formed, and the introduction of this aspirate is one method of increasing them. To the untrained foreign ear, however, the difference is hardly noticeable between the ordinary and the aspirated syllable, and in words commonly written by foreigners (such as *T'ai-p'ing*, usually written *Taiping*) the aspirate is dropped. Not counting the aspirated words, there are some 350 sounds used as words, if too minute variations are not noted.

In reading the characters one always begins at the right and reads downwards, if they are in vertical columns, taking the columns towards the left in turn. If horizontal, the characters are read from right to left. All the transliterations that follow are in the court or mandarin dialect, with the spelling according to the system adopted by Sir Thomas Wade and now in general use.

With this introduction we can now look at some of the inscriptions a little more understandingly, perhaps. On the stamps of the first issue, whose design has already been described, we find in the right upper corner the character 大, *ta*, which means "great", and in the left upper corner 清, *ch'ing*, meaning "pure". These two characters form the dynastic title of the present Manchu house, which has occupied the imperial throne since 1644. The custom of calling the country by the name of the dynasty then reigning was established by the same family of Chin of which we have already heard and, as each succeeding dynasty has sat upon the throne of China, they have called the country by the name chosen to designate their period of ascendancy. The last Chinese dynasty was called the *Ta Ming* or "Great Bright" but when the Manchus overthrew it they adopted the term *Ta Ch'ing* or "Great Pure" by which the empire has since been officially known.

In the right hand panel are three characters reading downward 郵政局, *yu-ch'eng chü*, the first two characters signifying "postal" and the last one "bureau", the whole being the Chinese designation for the Postal Bureau or, as we might call it, the Post Office Department. In the case of these stamps it was, of course, only that section of the Customs Administration which had postal matters in charge.

In the left hand panel are three more characters, the top one being a numeral and changed for each value. Inasmuch as most of the Chinese numerals appear on the stamps, it may be well to give them all together here for easy reference. They occur in two forms, the long and the short, which might be roughly compared to our word for the number and the figure representing the same. The long form is used in documents, on money, etc., and is the only one found on the Government stamps. The short form is a contraction and is used commercially where rapidity is desirable. These forms may be found on some of the Treaty Port issues.

Arabic.	Long Chinese.	Short Chinese.	Name.
1	壹	一	<i>i</i>
2	貳, 貳	二	<i>er</i>
3	叁	三	<i>san</i>
4	肆	四	<i>szu</i>
5	伍	五	<i>wu</i>
6	陸	六	<i>lu</i>
7	柒	七	<i>ch'i</i>
8	捌	八	<i>pa</i>
9	玖	九	<i>chiu</i>
10	拾	十	<i>shih</i>

On the Customs stamps we note the long form of the numerals and the inscription reads: 壹(叁 or 伍)分銀. *i (san or wu) fén yin*, or "1 (3 or 5) candarins, silver." It must be explained that the *candarin* is a money of account and not a coin. The only coin in general currency throughout China is the brass *cash* which is known collectively to the Chinese as *ch'ien*, corresponding to "money". Some say this term was applied because the original cash piece weighed one mace (*ch'ien*); others, because the cash are generally strung by hundreds through the square hole in the center (100 cash being nominally equivalent to 1 mace). Larger amounts are represented by small ingots of silver, of various shapes and sizes, called *sycee*, a corruption of *hsi szu* or "fine silk", so called because pure silver under the application of heat, can be drawn out into threads of the fineness of silk. Sycee are often cast into a shape called a "shoe" but which more resembles a boat. These ingots usually have a "mint mark", so to speak, giving the district magistrate's title and the date, for purposes of verification.

The table of money of accounts is as follows :

10 cash (厘, *lí*) = 1 candarin (分, *fén*)

10 candarin = 1 mace (錢, *ch'ien*)

10 mace = 1 tael (兩, *liang*)

It will be observed that the ordinary names by which foreigners designate the units are not those by which the Chinese know them. The names familiar to us are Portuguese adaptations of various Malay terms, for it will be remembered that the Portuguese were the first European traders who pushed their commerce as far as Malaysia and China, and who therefore, brought back much of the earliest information. The word *cash* is from the Portuguese *caixa*, a name given the tin coins found by them at Malacca in 1511, and which had been brought there from the Malabar coast in India, where they were known as *kasu*. *Candarin*, is from the Malay *kondrin*; *mace* from the Malay *mas*; and *tael* is the Portuguese form of the Malay *tahil*, meaning a weight—for the tael or liang is the Chinese ounce and the table we have been considering is really the table of weights, used for accounting because silver is used by weight in payment.

(To be continued)

The Case of R. P. H. Wolle.

Philatelists have good reason to congratulate themselves that, in all reasonable probability, the notorious R. P. H. Wolle is to be entertained for some time at the expense of the State, during which period we may hope to be spared from the dangerous results of his misdirected abilities.

Wolle's persistent returning to the same line of swindling, despite the discouragement of several terms in prison, suggests that he is a believer in the old saying that "there is a sucker born every minute". Let us hope that before he is again at liberty the present generation of "good things", at least, will have been educated to an understanding of his ways and works.

After several weeks of preparation of the case by Assistant District Attorney Charles W. Appleton, it was brought before Judge Cowing and a jury on the 12th and 13th of this month, the presentation of the case being made by Assistant District Attorney J. H. Iselin. It was fortunate for us that the case fell into the hands of gentlemen who were able to take broad views of things, who were willing to believe that philately might be more than mere child's play, and who could understand how serious a menace Wolle's deeds were to established businesses and an entertaining pursuit. It is interesting to note that this was practically the first case of its kind which had been presented in the courts of this State, the only other case being a brief presentation before a magistrate. The District Attorneys were, therefore, without precedents to guide them and were under the necessity of establishing the case on its merits and through their own abilities. It is, of course, an honor to be able to successfully do this, but the result could only be attained by hard work. That a large amount of care and thought had been devoted to the preparation of the case, was clearly apparent to those who were present at the trial.

The action (grand larceny in the second degree) was brought in the name of Joseph F. Negreen. The only witnesses called were Mr. Negreen, his father, detective B. A. Flood (who made the arrest) and John N. Luff, as expert witness for the State. Messrs. Bruner, Herzog, Robinson, Doane and Krebs were present for the purpose of giving testimony, but the case was deemed sufficiently strong without calling them to the stand. The jury were out of the room about five minutes, apparently only long enough to take one ballot, and on their return rendered a verdict of guilty. Following the verdict, Judge Cowing congratulated the jury on the soundness of their finding and then detailed to them (as could not legally be done before) the past history and convictions of the prisoner, the dangerous nature of his offences and the desirability of restraining him from doing injury to stamp collectors and dealers. His Honor very justly held that though collecting and dealing in stamps were pursuits with which most people were not familiar, they were, none the less, amusements and industries in which large sums were invested and were as much entitled to the protection of the law as any other legitimate pursuit. While the case was remanded until the 18th, there does not appear to be any reason to anticipate the granting of a new trial, and the announcement was made from the bench that the full penalty (imprisonment for five years) would probably be inflicted. Making allowance for good conduct, this will mean an imprisonment of about three and one-half years.

The stamps which Wolle had sold to Mr. Negreen and others as well as

those which were seized at the time of his arrests in Boston and New York, were presented in evidence. They were a most interesting and dangerous lot of clever manipulations. His forte appears to be the turning of proofs and common stamps into rare varieties. Among the numerous items were many altered United States stamps, for instance :

Issue of 1851. 1c, type II, painted to resemble type III ; 24c, perforated, cut to shape and mounted on a large piece of paper to represent the imperf. variety, being also affixed to an original cover.

1857. 3c, type II, with the outer lines of type I added

1861, September issue. 5c and 30c. altered to resemble the August issue; 1, 2 and 3c stamps with fraudulent laid lines.

Bisected stamps of 1851, 1861 and 1869 issues on covers with bogus cancellations.

1869. 15, 24 and 30c with inverted centers.

Pan-American. 1, 2 and 4c with inverted centers.

Many varieties of proofs thinned, gummed and perforated. Among the envelopes were the 1874-82, 2c, die C, painted to resemble die D, and the 3c, die B, painted to resemble die C.

There were many other manipulated stamps, both U. S. and foreign. The work was usually very cleverly done and often required the most minute and careful examination to detect its fraudulent character. A man of Wolle's abilities should be able to earn a large salary at a legitimate occupation. When the time comes that he is again at liberty, it will behoove philatelists to be on their guard against purchasing ostensible bargains from sources that are not well authenticated. For the present, we have a wrong man in the right place.

Just as we go to press we learn that a sentence of imprisonment for four years has been imposed upon Wolle.



Review.

THE "OFFICIAL" CATALOGUE.

We have before us a bulky duodecimo bearing the title of "*Catalogue Officiel de la Société Française de Timbrologie*." This appears to be the first attempt to put into print the much discussed and long hoped for "ideal" catalogue, which was to be made by collectors for collectors, and to be all things to all men and as near perfection as may be in this world of uncertainties and failures. No catalogue has ever been entirely satisfactory to its makers and users and probably none ever will be; above all, we expect defects in the first edition of a work. But, making reasonable allowance for such shortcomings, we feel that this new catalogue may be pronounced a success.

On one of the early pages of the book we find an imposing array of names of prominent collectors throughout the world, who have assisted in the preparation of the work. On looking through the book we find that well-known specialists have compiled the lists of the stamps of many countries. This, of course, insures careful and reliable arrangements of those special parts, but it has a tendency to produce unevenness in the catalogue as a whole.

The letter press is good, but the illustrations are poor and the paper not sufficiently opaque. However, we must not expect too much when a book of eighteen hundred pages is sold for 85 cents. The normal varieties of stamps are listed in heavy-faced type, the minor varieties and shades in smaller type, the former being further distinguished by the addition of the letters *a, b, c*, etc. to the numbers and the shades by the addition of the words *bi, ter*, etc. The plan of pricing varieties of perforation in separate columns results in a saving of repetition and space.

In the matter of prices, we do not propose to offer any criticism. We wish merely to remark that, in such instances as we have noted or as have been called to our attention, the prices seem to be considerably below those given in the catalogues which have long been accepted as standard, as well as those prevailing in the market.

The catalogue includes both postage and telegraph stamps, and here we wish to call attention to the fact that, of the various issues of telegraph stamps in the United States, the only varieties listed are the stamps of the American Rapid Telegraph Co. and five others, which appear to be part of the series issued by the Western Union Telegraph Co. We cannot surmise why the other United States telegraph stamps are omitted. The list of the regular postal issues of the United States and Confederate States was written by Mr. John N. Luff, but, not knowing that telegraph stamps were to be included, he did not prepare any manuscript for them, and is, therefore, not to be held responsible for the omission.



COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—We have received a very decided shade of the ecru pelure paper chronicled by us last month. As originally issued the stamp was a bright green with a decidedly bluish cast, while the new shade is a pronounced olive-green.



FALKLAND ISLANDS.—The *London Philatelist* says: "The 3s is said to be upon C. A. paper, about three watermarks showing to each stamp. Are we to assume the stock of C. C. paper has at length come to an end? The change from C. C. to C. A. paper was made in 1882, but the printers had such an immense stock of the C. C. paper suitable for large stamps that it has only just become exhausted. If our supposition is correct, the next printings of the high values, at present watermarked Crown C. C., will be on C. A. paper."



HAYTI.—Mr. Albert Perrin has shown us the one cent stamp of the commemorative series with inverted surcharge.

Our correspondent at Port-au-Prince informs us that the officials have decided that there is no longer any reason for applying the control stamp to the current series and that, therefore, both the regular and commemorative stamps are now being issued without this disfigurement.



NEW SOUTH WALES.—We quote from the *Australian Philatelist*: "Our publisher has shown us a vertical pair of the current 3d stamps, perforated 11, all round and imperforate in the center. Mr Hagen has also shown us the 1d pale red of the series of 1871-84 on paper watermarked large crown (type II), but perforated 12½. The stamps printed on this paper with large crown watermark have not been known to be perforated 12½, although this perforation is the commonest of the varieties used for the small crown paper.



NICARAGUA.—The New England Stamp Co. has shown us the five pesos official stamp, series of 1892, imperforate horizontally.



PANAMA.—Upon page 81 of the February number of the *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY* we reproduced the type of the surcharge which was applied by the postmaster at David to the stamps of the Colombian Republic.

We are gratified to observe that this cut was so eminently satisfactory to our worthy confrère, the editor of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*, that he has reproduced it on page 140 of the May number of his journal. He has,

perhaps naturally enough, failed to state that he borrowed it from us—without our permission—but we are pleased to note that he does *not* say that he has seen any of the original stamps.



PHILIPPINES.—Mr. John Zug has shown us a novelty from this country. It is the current four cent envelope on amber paper, size 7, bearing the following return card :

“After 10 days return to
Guillermo Perera Y Montanes,
1903 Calle Real,
Manila, P. I.”

In some way it has escaped the “PHILIPPINES” overprint so that, in reality, it is simply an U. S. envelope. We understand that only a small number were found in this condition.



VENEZUELA.—We have seen an error of the 5c on 50c which we chronicled in February. The word “VALE” is misspelled “VELE.”





COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—We have received a very decided shade of the *pelure* paper chronicled by us last month. As originally issued the stamp was a bright green with a decidedly bluish cast, while the new shade is a pronounced olive-green.



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VENEZUELA.—We have seen an error of the 5c on 50c which we chronicled in February. The word “VALE” is misspelled “VELE.”





UNITED STATES.—The new series, in commemoration of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, was placed on sale April 30th.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked U. S. P. S.
Perforated 12.

- 1c green
- 2c carmine
- 3c purple
- 5c blue
- 10c brown

AFGHANISTAN.—The *Monthly Journal* adds three new colors of paper to those upon which the 2ab (similar to our type A19) exists.

Adhesive stamps.

Imperforate.

- 2ab black on yellow
- 2ab " " blue-green
- 2ab " " purple

AITUTAKI.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says that the 1c stamp now comes in a new shade.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked single lined Star and N. Z.

Perforated.

- 1s orange-red

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* mentions three new values of the postage due set as having been issued. They are type II, perforated 11½ and 12x11.

Postage Due stamps.

Watermarked Large Crown and N. S. W.

Perforated.

- ½p emerald green
- 6p " "
- 8p " "

AZORES.—We are indebted to Mr. J. B. Robert for the information that a new value has been added to the postage due set.

Postage Due stamp.

Perforated.

Blue surcharge.

- 2cr pale lilac

BRITISH HONDURAS.—Several of our contemporaries report having seen "Specimen" copies of a new value of the King's head type.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14.

- 20c violet

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The *Philatelic Record* announces a new value of the King's head series.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Anchor.

Perforated 14

- 2½p ultramarine

CEYLON.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* announces the appearance of the two high values of the King's head series, and says that they were issued to the public on April 12th and April 4th, respectively.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Crown and C. C. (?)

Perforated 14.

- 1r 50c gray and dark gray (?)
2r 25c brown and green (?)

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC—Bolívar.

—*La Cote Réelle* has received "three new stamps, horribly printed and revealing to us, also, the august features of three unknown personages."

Adhesive stamps.

- 5c black (J. M. del Castillo)
10c brown (Manuel Anguiano)
20c red (Panteleon G. Ribon)

Cundinamarca.—This province has followed the lead of the mother country and commenced the issue of a new set "upon a gold basis." We illustrate the four values already received.

Adhesive stamps.



Perforated 12.

- 1c dull orange
2c dull blue
50c red-violet
1p gray-green

CRETE.—We quote from the *Monthly Journal*: "A correspondent at Canea informs us, in a letter posted on St. Valentine's day, that, the supply of the current 1 lepton,

brown, having run out, the fiscal stamp of the same design, in olive-yellow, was issued for postage: in proof of which he kindly franked his letter with twenty five of these stamps."

Revenue Stamp used Postally.

Perforated.

- 1l olive yellow

DAHOMY AND DEPENDENCIES.

—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* announces a new stamp for this colony.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 14x13½.

- 5c yellow-green

EGYPT.—Soudan. — *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* announces a new official stamp.

Official stamp.

Watermarked Crescent and Star.

Perforated,

Black surcharge.

- 3m violet and green

GADELOUPE.—Several of our contemporaries announce that some of the stamps surcharged last year have received an additional surcharge consisting of a rectangular frame with the date "1903" *La Timbrophile Belge* says that the date is sometimes at the top of the stamp, sometimes at the bottom and is found both vertically and horizontally. The new surcharge is in red or blue. Presumably this will add numerous varieties to the already long list which are found in the stamps with the original surcharge.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 14x13½.

Black and red surcharge.

- 40c on 1fr bronze green
1fr on 75c deep violet on orange
Black and blue surcharge.
40c on 1fr bronze-green
1fr on 75c deep violet on orange

INDIA.—Chimba. — *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* announces the following

new stamps for this State; all but one are the King's head type.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Star.

Perforated 14.

Black surcharge.

4a olive

8a violet

1r green and carmine

Official stamps.

3p gray (Queen's head)

3p gray

½a green

1a carmine

Kishongarh.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says that the 2 rupees now comes in vermilion instead of red-brown.

Adhesive stamp.

Pin Perforated.

2r vermilion

INDO-CHINA.—We quote from the *London Philatelist*: "Messrs. Whitfield King & Co send us the 15c, the only value yet issued, of a new set for this Colony.

"The design consists of a mailed female figure to left with olive branch over left shoulder, and right hand resting on a sword; at the side of head is an anchor, 'POSTES' and value above, 'INDO CHINA FRANCAISE' at foot."

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 14x13½.

15c brown on blue

MADAGASCAR.—According to *La Côte Réelle* some of the values of these stamps ran short and they supplied the deficiency by bisecting other values.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 14x13½.

Blue surcharge.

5c red (½ of 10c)

15c brown on bistre (½ of 30c)

MAURITIUS.—We quote from the *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*: "The stock of 15c Labourdonnais Express Delivery which remained on hand has been surcharged with the additional word 'INLAND' in red (like the Express Delivery surcharge). We are officially informed that 5002 only were made and in order that no one might be disappointed not more than 100 copies were supplied to any one applicant

"Our information to the effect that all the 15c Labourdonnais had been surcharged was evidently incorrect, as the provisional issue mentioned above has been followed by another (or perhaps both were issued at the same time?). This time the whole surcharge—'Express Delivery' and 'Inland' were surcharged at one operation, 16,000 plain Labourdonnais stamps being appropriated for the purpose. At the time of writing our correspondent stated that only 9000 had been delivered by the printers to the Post Office. It is to be hoped no further variation will occur in the remaining 7000."

This gives us two types of the "INLAND" stamp. The first is described by the above journal as follows: "Same as I (the regular Express Delivery stamp) with 'INLAND' printed in afterwards between 'Delivery' and '15c', 4 mm. space between 'Express' and 'Delivery'.

"Type II. Same as last but both surcharges printed at one operation and the space between 'Express' and 'Delivery' measures only 1½ mm."

Special Delivery stamps.

Watermarked Crown and C. C.

15c on 15c ultramarine, Type I.

15c " 15c " Type II.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* adds a new value to the official set.

Official stamp.

Perforated.

Perforated "O. S.—N. S. W."

5s violet

PERSIA.—*Le Timbrophile Belge* says that the 2s (our type A26), has been surcharged "P. L." for use in Teheran.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 12½.

Blue surcharge.

2s gray

PHILIPPINES.—We are indebted to Mr. John Zug for the following additions to our list of envelopes overprinted for use in these islands:

Envelope stamps.

Green surcharge.

1c green on white (size 6)

1c " " manila (size 6)

Carminé surcharge.

2c carminé on white (size 8)

2c " " (" 10)

Brown surcharge

4c brown on amber (size 7)

Blue surcharge.

5c blue on amber (size 5)

PORTUGAL.—Several of our contemporaries announce an additional value of the postage due set.

Postage Due stamp.

Perforated.

2or lilac

RUSSIAN OFFICES ABROAD.

Offices in the Turkish Empire.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* announces a new value for these offices.

Adhesive stamp.

Vertically laid paper.

Perforated 14½.

Red surcharge.

2op on 4k rose

SOUTH ALGERIA.—We quote from *La Côte Réelle*: "From an office lost in the desert of Sahara comes the first surcharge upon the stamps of the sower type.

The post office at Beni-Ounif, be-

ing out of postage due stamps, has taken the 30c lilac, of the sower type and surcharged it."

The illustration shows the following surcharge in two lines at the top: "Région Saharienne-Sud-Algérien," and, reading upwards at the right side: "A PERCEVOIR".

Postage Due stamp.

Perforated 14x13½.

Black surcharge.

30c lilac

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports a new value for this Colony.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14.

2½p ultramarine and black

VENEZUELA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* tells us that the provisional series (our type A32) has been surcharged "CORREOS" and the names of various towns, as follows:

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 12.

Inscribed "ESTADO MATURIN" at sides.

Surcharged "CORREOS MATURIN", in bright blue.

5c black on pink

10c " " blue

25c " " yellow

50c " " red

1b " " gray

Inscribed "DISTRITO MARIANO" at sides.

Surcharged "GUIRIA" in magenta.

5c black on red

10c " " yellow

25c " " gray

50c " " pink

1b " " blue

Surcharged "YRAPA" in magenta.

5c black on red

10c " " yellow

25c " " gray

50c " " pink

1b " " blue

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* announces the following adhesives perforated 'w a' for official use.

Official stamps.

Watermarked V and Crown.

Perforated 12½.
2p yellow
Watermarked Crown and W. A.
Perforated 14.
1p carmine
Watermarked Crown and C. A.
6p violet

The Collectors Club.

351 FOURTH AVENUE,

NEW YORK.

The 105th meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House on Monday evening, April 11, 1904.

Present: Messrs. Bruner, Dewing, Luff, Morgenthau, Scott and Perrin. In the absence of the President the meeting was called to order at 8.20 P. M. by Vice-President Bruner. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved and it was voted to incorporate therein the communication of the Scott Stamp and Coin Co.

The Secretary reported that he had issued a visitor's card to Mr. John R. Keech at the request of Mr. Oney K. Carstarphen.

The Treasurer's report showing a cash balance in bank of \$187.34 exclusive of reserve fund was approved as read.

The report of the House Committee was read and received.

Votes of thanks were tendered Mr. J. M. Andreini for a copy of the book on the "Stamps of Puerto Principe," and to J. W. Scott for three bound volumes of the *Metropolitan Philatelist*.

The judges appointed to award the medals for the competitive exhibition of the Stamps of *Straits Settlements* submitted their report as follows:

NEW YORK, April 11, 1904.

TO THE GOVERNORS OF THE COLLECTORS CLUB:

Gentlemen—Your Committee of Judges appointed to award the prizes in competition for the Stamps of *Straits Settlements*, beg to report as follows:

Four collections were entered in competition for the two prizes donated. One collection exhibited under the name of "Sultan Ibrahim," although a very representative album collection, was not at all in the same class as the other three, and therefore did not enter into serious consideration.

The other three collections your Committee was obliged to examine with a great deal of care and attention, as they were all exceedingly fine collections of the Stamps of *Straits Settlements* and the *Protected States*, but it was soon apparent that the collection exhibited by "Sungei Ujong" although it con-

tained a number of very scarce stamps of the country, was not nearly as complete as the other two, and so the competition was narrowed down to two collections, exhibited respectively by "Malayan" and "E. Z. Mark." Both these collections showed wonderful care and study of the stamps and their varieties, and we were obliged to take each issue and compare every stamp thereof, paying regard to all minor varieties, and even the condition of the stamps themselves. By this careful process we came to the conclusion that the first prize or silver medal, should be awarded to the collection exhibited by "Malayan" and the second prize or bronze medal to that exhibited by "E. Z. Mark." and deem it only just that an "honorable mention" should be awarded to the exhibitor of the collection "Sungei Ujong."

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. MORGENTHAU.
JOHN W. SCOTT.
JULIUS HERZOG.

Upon opening the envelopes containing the names of the exhibitors it was found that the silver medal had been awarded to Mr. John N. Luff, and the bronze medal to Mr. P. F. Bruner, that the collection entered under the name of "Sungei Ujong" was the property of Mr. Frank Koenig and that Mr. Jos. S. Rich had entered his collection under the name of "Sultan Ibrahim."

The report of the judges was accepted with thanks.

The following judges were appointed to award the medals of the next competition (U. S. Proofs and Essays), to be held May 9:

JOHN N. LUFF,
P. F. BRUNER,
W. S. SCOTT,

and due notice is hereby given that all exhibits are to be sent to John N. Luff, 18 East 23rd Street, at least two days before the date of exhibition.

Adjourned at 9.30 P. M.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary.*

The 106th meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the club house on Monday evening, May 9th, 1904.

Present: Messrs. Andreini, Bruner, Dewing, Morgenthau, Rich, Scott and Perrin.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 8.15 P. M.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The resignation of Mr. J. W. Ehrich was read and accepted with regrets.

The Treasurer's report showing a cash balance in bank of \$207.18 exclusive of reserve fund was approved as read.

The report of the House Committee was read and received.

Moved, seconded and carried that the Treasurer be authorized to sell the bond of the club.

Moved, seconded and carried unanimously that the Treasurer be authorized to open an account in his name as Treasurer with the Lincoln Trust Company and keep the funds of the Collectors Club on deposit there, subject to check drawn by him as Treasurer.

The judges appointed to award the medals for the competitive exhibition of U. S. Proofs and Essays submitted their report as follows:

NEW YORK, May 9, 1904.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OF THE COLLECTORS CLUB :

Gentlemen :—Your committee appointed to act as judges in the competitive exhibition of United States proofs and essays, beg to report as follows :

Three collections were entered in the competition. One of these exhibited by "Justinian" was much more extensive and complete than the others and to it the judges decided to award the first prize or silver medal. The smaller collection exhibited by "Essayist," containing some very fine proofs of revenue stamps which were not included in the "Justinian" collection, your judges deem to be well worthy of the second prize or bronze medal. We also desire to award honorable mention to the collection shown under the title "Not in it" which includes some interesting things, especially among the essays for envelopes.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN N. LUFF,
P. F. BRUNER.

Upon opening the envelopes containing the names of the exhibitors it was found that the silver medal had been awarded to Mr. Edw. H. Mason and the bronze medal to Mr. Geo. L. Toppan, while honorable mention had been awarded Mr. Jos. S. Rich.

Adjourned at 9.15 P. M.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary*.